

# Weekly National Intelligence.

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## Weekly National Intelligence.

By GALE & SEATON.

JAMES C. WELLS, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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## OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

We to-day commence the publication of the essential portions of the elaborate and eloquent speech delivered by Mr. Senator SUMNER in New York, on Thursday last, upon the subject of "Our Foreign Relations." The great length of the oration, filling as it does nearly twenty columns of the New York press, from which we copy it, must be our apology for omitting in this reproduction so much as seems least essential to the full exhibition of the Senator's argument, under which we class the first head of his discourse, devoted to a recapitulation of the instances in which, since the outbreak of our civil war, he conceives the Governments of Great Britain and France to have demonstrated an unfriendly disposition towards the United States. Under this head Mr. Sumner cites fourteen specifications against the Government of Great Britain and four against the Emperor of the French.

The unfriendly acts which afford the evidence of something less than a neutral bearing towards our country on the part of the British people and rulers are found in the haste with which the British Government in May, 1861, recognised the Southern insurgents as "belligerents," in the hostile spirit created by that declaration among the English people, and which was subsequently developed by the Trent affair; by the reclamation made in behalf of certain British subjects because the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus was denied to them when arrested on suspicion of aiding and abetting the rebellion; by the diplomatic representations made against the "stone blockade" of Charleston; by the criticisms of British statesmen in Parliament, in public addresses and in official papers, animadverting on particular measures of our military policy, and conceived in general discouragement of our cause as one predestined to defeat; by the impunity with which "naval expeditions" have been allowed to fit out in British ports for the purpose of deprecating on our commerce; by the misconstructions placed on the rulings of our courts and on the practice of our Government for the purpose of giving a colorable pretext to such violations of neutrality; by the curt and cynical tone which the British Foreign Secretary habitually holds towards the Government of the United States in his official correspondence; and, lastly, by the prospect of an "intrusive mediation," never formally disavowed, but suspended, as *in terrorem*, over the head of the nation.

If we cross the channel into France Mr. Sumner does not see much to encourage us, though the Emperor, he thinks, has not "intermeddled so illogically or displayed a temper so little international amiability." His unfriendly disposition has, however, been manifested, as Mr. Sumner conceives, by his recognition of the Confederates as belligerents on sea as well as land; by the invasion of our neighboring Republic, Mexico, and the dynastic designs which he seeks to carry out in restraint of our power and influence in the Gulf of Mexico and on the American Continent; by his desire to intervene for the purpose of procuring an armistice between the "two belligerents;" and by his patronizing demeanor towards the envoy of the insurgents in Paris.

This portion of Mr. Sumner's speech we have omitted, as relating to topics with which our readers are familiar, though in unfolding his subject he naturally assigns the first place to this branch of the discussion. From our recapitulation the reader can gather the several counts of his indictment against these two great Powers. In his discourse Mr. Sumner gives to them a great elaboration and minuteness of statement, because he regards them as so many "perils," portending damage to the national cause. The array certainly is a formidable one in the eyes of all who share his view of the *animus* and motives of the European Powers in question. For our own part we are frank to avow that we do not find quite as much cause of complaint on all of these grounds as the distinguished Senator does, and therefore we do not see in all of them the same cause of apprehension. If we did so we should be greatly more alarmed than Mr. Sumner seems to be for the security of our country from foreign complications fraught with irreparable disasters to the cause of the Government in its present contest.

If we turn from a review of the particular specifications adduced by Mr. Sumner against Great Britain and France to consider the principles of public law and policy on which he relies for a defense of our Government against the menace of a foreign "recognition" or "intervention" to our detriment, we shall find that he reposes his hopes chiefly on considerations derived from the moral aspects of the great struggle which is convulsing our country. He argues that "it is plain to all who have not forgotten history that England never can be guilty of such recognition without an unpardonable apostasy, nor can she intervene by way of mediation except in the interests of freedom." And yet he immediately adds that "such are the strange elective affinities" newly born between England and slavery; "such is the towering blindness, with regard to our country, kindred to that which prevailed in the time of George Grenville and Lord North, that her Majesty's Government, instead of repelling the proposition, simply adjourn

it, meanwhile adopting the attitude of one watching to strike."

It will be seen that to "intervention," as such, Mr. Sumner interposes no objection based on general principles of international obligation. On the contrary, he deems it the past glory of England that for so many years she has "intervened" against slavery. There is a kind of "unarmed intervention" which he says he cannot criticize: "It is where a nation interposes or interposes in favor of human rights, or to secure the overthrow of some enormous wrong, as where Cromwell pleaded, with noble intercession, for the secluded Protestants of the Alpine Valleys; where Great Britain and France declared their sympathy with the Greeks struggling for independence, and where Great Britain alone, by a untiring diplomacy, set herself against slavery every where throughout the world." The "intervention of England against slavery" assumed "its most positive character," he recites, while Lord Palmerston was Foreign Secretary, and this fact Mr. Sumner recalls to "his great honor," and immediately adds:

"Throughout his long life, among all the various concerns in which he has acted, there is nothing which will be remembered hereafter with such gratitude. By his diplomacy her Majesty's Government constituted itself into a vast Abolition Society, with the whole world for its field."

It is in virtue of such traditions that Mr. Sumner makes his appeal to the British Government and people. He thinks "it is enough to show that, according to the spirit of international law, and according also to those commanding principles of justice and humanity which cannot be set at naught without a shock to human nature itself, so foul a wrong as slavery can receive no voluntary support from the Commonwealth of Nations. It is not a question of law, but a question of morality." If, then, the British Government and people shall take a different view of the moral aspects of the American question from that taken by Mr. Sumner, he would be, so far as we can perceive, at the end of his argument. And he says, at the same time, that "it is in England, more even than in France, that the strongest sentiment for rebel slaveholders has been manifested, constituting a *moral mania*, which menaces a pact and concord with the rebellion itself—as when an early Pope, the head of the Christian Church, did not hesitate to execute a piratical convention with a pagan enemy of the Christian name. It only remains that the new coalition should be signed in order to consummate the unutterable degradation." If such be the altered state of British sentiment on this great question, it is obvious that Mr. Sumner reposes his hopes of British forbearance on a very uncertain foundation.

We trust we are not unduly skeptical in appreciating the force or value of "moral sentiments" as prescribing the duties of nations. And yet we do not permit ourselves to suppose that, because of slavery, there will be the least reluctance on the part of either Great Britain or France to concede to the Southern insurgents the full measure of "recognition" to which they may vindicate their claim by the success of their arms. If hitherto "recognition" has been delayed it is simply because the progress of events has not been such as to justify it, not because of any tenderness on the subject of slavery. And as it has been hitherto so will it be hereafter. We therefore find more cause for misgiving than for confidence in calculations based on any other considerations than those of international law as resulting from the *de facto* relations of the Federal Government and the insurgents. And at a time when these *de facto* relations are becoming day by day more and more corroborative of the rights and pretensions of the National Government we can hardly consent to see the latter rested on the uncertain basis of "moral sentiments," which, however noble and honorable, must depend for their vitality on the degree in which they are actualized by any people. When, therefore, Mr. Sumner says:

"The slaveholders may be a corporation in fact, but no such corporation can find a place in that sublime Commonwealth. As well admit the Thugs, whose first article of faith is to kill a stranger; or, the Buccaneers, those old 'brothers of the coast,' who plundered on the sea; or, better still, revive the old Kingdom of the Assassins, where the king was an assassin, surrounded by counsellors and generals who were assassins, and all his subjects were assassins. Or, yet again, better at once and openly recognize anti-Chris, who in his supreme and highest impersonation of the slave-power."

We have only to express the conviction that the Governments of the world will give little heed to this aspect of the question, if ever the insurgent States shall demonstrably become "a corporation in fact." They will be recognised and received in the family of nations just as surely as any other people which have successfully vindicated their pretension to independence. It will be quite in vain, we fear, to exclaim as Mr. Sumner does: "Better for the fact-anchored state that it should be sunk beneath the sea, with its cathedrals, its castles, its fide of glory, Runnymede, Westminster Hall, and the home of Shakespeare, than that it should do this thing. In other days England has valiantly striven against slavery; and now she proposes to surrender, at a moment when more can be done than ever before against the monster wherever it shows its head, for slavery every where has its neck in this rebellion. In other days France has valiantly striven for ideas; and now she proposes to surrender, although all that she has possessed to have at heart is involved in the doom of slavery, which a word from her might hasten beyond recall."

If even now these great Powers "propose" to do this thing, what might we not expect if the fortunes of the insurgents were more prosperous?

It is plain to us, therefore, that in making his argument and in selecting his ground of appeal Mr. Sumner has addressed himself rather to the people than to the Governments of England and France. He hopes to revive in the popular heart of Europe the memory of those traditions which have made England "the protectress of the African race" and France the "declared champion of ideas," and he seeks to invoke these traditions, as thus revived, in behalf of the cause of emancipation now upheld by the Federal Government. To this effect he says:

"Freedom is the growing inspiration of our armies and the just inscription of our banners. By this sign conquer, such a war is not in any just sense a war of subjugation,

but a war of liberation—in order to save the Republic from a petty oligarchy of task-masters, and to rescue four millions of human beings from a cruel oppression. Not to subjugate but to liberate is the object of our holy war. And yet British statesmen, forgetting for the moment all moral distinctions—forgetting God, who will not be forgotten—gravely announce that our cause must fail."

That it is to the people rather than to the rulers that he makes his primary appeal may be gathered from the prediction he makes in another part of his oration, when he says—

"An aroused public opinion, 'the world's collected will,' and returning wisdom in England and France will see to it that civilization is saved from this shock and the nations themselves from the terrible retribution which sooner or later must surely attend it. No power can afford to lift itself before mankind and openly vote a new and untrammelled charter to injustice and cruelty."

It is in this "aroused public opinion," reacting on the Governments of England and France, that he finds the grounds of his confidence, and to this he has addressed his argument in the way that has seemed to him so just and convincing that he cannot doubt its effect on the minds of others. And all who know the candor and earnestness of the speaker will do justice to the inspirations under which he has spoken. Those who most dissent from the grounds on which he rests his argument will know how to do justice to his eloquence and his learning.

We should think that no people had stronger claims on the protection and fostering care of a Government than those of the Border Slave States have to the consideration and protecting hand of the Federal Government, for they have perilled every thing and suffered almost every thing to maintain their fealty to the Union, and not one of them has held its duty more faithfully than the State of Maryland. It is, moreover, a maxim as old as government itself that allegiance and protection are reciprocal obligations. It is, therefore, with regret, inspired as well by a particular sympathy in all that concerns the well-being of the parent State of our District, as by respect for the Government and a desire that it should deal justly in all things, that we have observed frequent complaints of irritating injuries inflicted on the rights and property of loyal citizens of Maryland—and to this only do we wish now to refer—by officers and others professing to be agents of the Government. And we are moved to this notice of the subject by what seems to be an extended and systematic invasion of the rights of property in this State, unauthorized by the Government we hope, but unredressed and unchecked as far as we know. We allude to what appears to be the practical inauguration of the scheme recently submitted to the Secretary of War for enticing slaves in Maryland away from their owners and enrolling them in the army. We have not heard that the suggestion has been adopted by the Government; at least no proclamation has been issued by the President, as was invoked by the author of the scheme, but it may have received the countenance and consent, if not an order, of the War Department. We hardly think a provost marshal would venture on so reprehensible a course on his own motion, although the example of Lieut. Col. Cregar in Frederick county, a few weeks ago, is fresh in the public mind. To place distinctly before our readers the grievance we refer to we insert below a recent letter from a gentleman of the highest respectability on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, omitting some of the indignant language he uses in characterizing an act which he regards as trampling at once on the laws of the State and his private rights. With these few remarks we leave the matter with those who have the power, and we will not doubt the disposition also, to apply the corrective:

"EASTERN SHORE, (MD.) SEPTEMBER 9, 1863.  
"In Eastern Shore are stationed for the purpose of enrolling our slaves as soldiers. They employ free blacks or worthless white men who go among the slaves and entice at night to Eastern, where the military officers enlist them, the poor creatures, by swearing them and signing for them a contract of service. They are then claimed as soldiers, or openly marched to steamboats and carried to Baltimore guarded by soldiers of an Ohio regiment now in Baltimore.  
"These blacks are enlisted for Birney's regiment. On Tuesday last one hundred and eighteen slaves were carried away from the Kent from Michael's River Ferry, and previously many more. Indeed all the slaves of those who do not support Lincoln will be carried away. Two in my service have gone; my own slave is one of them. He was a contented young man until these emissaries corrupted him. The other belonged to a *widow*, (of course not a politician,) and this man leaves a wife and several children.  
"All their slaves are taken from some owners and their crops not secured—they will be ruined. The Provost Marshal and his colleagues get two dollars per head for obtaining slaves. I do not know that these outrages will cease bloodshed, but the citizens may be driven to protect their loyal rights at every hazard. I was sick the day my servants left, and could not go to the steamboat; but I sent and notified the captain of the boat that I would hold him responsible. He wished to restore my servants, but said his boat was under military control and he could do nothing.  
"The negroes were all provided with clubs and seemed very defiant, and cheered lustily when the boat left. We are credibly told that in a few days Birney's regiment, or a part of it, will be sent here, and our slaves among them, to stir up a general insurrection, &c. Indeed, the ground for Birney's camp is already selected. Can nothing be done to stop this?  
"The owners of slaves here are now proposing to ship to the Government the wives and children of the slaves taken away by the military."  
Since the above letter came to hand we find that the respected and enlightened Executive of the State, Gov. BRADFORD, in a published letter to the Hon. FRANCIS THOMAS, not only confirms the statements of the above letter in regard to the misconduct of army officers, but also rebukes in unequivocal terms the reprehensible scheme of wide-spread subversion of law and right broached by a judicial officer of the State. The following is an extract from the Governor's able and pointed letter:

"Recruiting officers have made their appearance in different parts of the State, openly engaged in the business of enticing slaves, and a letter has been just published, addressed by a highly respectable member of the bench of the State to the Secretary of War, urging the latter to adopt that policy and entice the slaves of the State, with or without the consent of the owners.  
"It is not my purpose now to enter into any criticism

of this letter, or to analyze its legal or logical deductions. I may be permitted, however, to say that I have felt great regret that any one occupying such a position, and especially one for whom I have entertained the respect and regard that I have for the writer, should have ventured to advise the course indicated in that letter; and my surprise has scarcely been less than my regret that one of sound judgment and ordinary discretion could advise so flagrant a violation of the laws of the State and the general sentiment of its citizens, or how any loyal man, at such a time as this, could suggest a proceeding so well calculated to impair public confidence in the Administration when such confidence is so important to its success.  
"Knowing as well as I do the staunch and inflexible character of the loyalty of our State, I am unwilling to believe it would yield even to the influence of such a measure; but it would nevertheless be subjecting it to an ordeal such as none other similarly situated has ever been required to endure."

"ENLISTING SLAVES IN MARYLAND."  
Under this heading the Baltimore American of yesterday gives the following item of news. Whether it is correct or not we cannot say, but it is suggestive as showing the manner in which moneys received from the conscription commutation may be disbursed:

We learn that the Secretary of War has decided to pay to all loyal owners of slaves in Maryland, who chafed to see their property in the military service of the Government, the sum of three hundred dollars for each abedoned man. A commission, we learn, will be organized in Washington in a few days to hear and adjudicate all claims that may be presented.  
The following paragraph, from the Centreville States Rights, probably has some bearing on this decision:  
"It is said that Thomas Chambers, who is recruiting negro troops in this county, has been ordered to make out a list of the names of the owners of the slaves who have been abducted in the county, and to mark such as he regards 'disloyal.' We hear that he has shown the order to several gentlemen. The object is not stated."

The Cambridge (Md.) Intelligencer publishes a letter dated the 27th of August from Col. Wm. Birney, the commander of the negro regiment now recruiting in Maryland, in which he gives a significant warning to some of the people of the Eastern Shore who have interposed obstacles to his recruiting agents. After stating that the enlistment of negro troops is going on, he says:  
"It is true that there are some active enemies, and that since the arrest of my agent, J. P. Cregar, they have taken occasion to commit some outrages. In Queen Anne's county a pretended writ was issued by a Justice to arrest a recruit, a free man, on his way to the rendezvous, under pretext that he had hired himself and could not leave before the end of the time. At Eastern a man named Bostick and his son, the former a black, frightened and drove away by threats some free men of color who were about to enlist and start for Baltimore. All these enemies of the Government will be dealt with as the law directs. If any has either been or will be within a day or two released by military authority. Owing to his being out of this department some delay has taken place. This is to be regretted, but was unavoidable. The men on the Eastern Shore who have obstructed the enlistment will have no opportunity of finding out that the Government is in earnest."

The nature of the summary punishment threatened in the foregoing *italicized* passages, (which we copy as we find them in the original publication,) and the agency by which the punishment is to be inflicted, would seem to be indicated in the immediately succeeding paragraph of Col. Birney's letter, which we also insert. It discloses at least the probable destination of his regiment of abducted negroes. He says:  
"Up to the present time I have not been able to give you any assurance of an early visit, but the regiment now is nearly full, and you may say to the friends and relatives of the brave men who have joined us from the Eastern Shore that they will probably soon have the pleasure of seeing them in uniform. Early in the next month I think you will hear from the Eastern Shore the unusual sight of a regiment of native Marylanders, not a foreigner among them. You will, I am sure, be proud of them."

THE OLDEN TIME.  
The following requisition from the Hon. CYRUS GRIF-FIN, a Member of the Continental Congress from Virginia, to the Commissary General, furnishes an amusing contrast to the circumstances and habits of the present day. The note is copied from the original in the library of our antiquarian fellow-citizen, Gen. PONCE. The letter is dated in 1779:  
"G. GRIF-FIN's compliments to Col. Blaine. Would be exceedingly obliged to him to order a barrel of flour and one of pork to be made up in the best manner, for table use of C. G. He did not intend to have troubled the public officers in this way, and finding it impossible to maintain his house at the market prices without absolute destruction, solicited to be relieved, but the State not granting his request, he is obliged to have recourse to some few articles from the Continent. C. Griffin has also received from time to time a few barrels of flour, but so unluckily as never to get but one that was good, and which was a few days ago sent to him by the State. Therefore, if Col. Blaine will order one barrel of the best flour, and a few bushels of rye meal, he would take it as a particular favor."  
Monday.—C. Griffin's direction is Third street, near Lombard street.  
C. G. is obliged to pay all market expenses out of his own pocket, but whatever the Continent furnish the State of Virginia will reimburse, which makes a very great difference in so ruinous a place as Philadelphia. However, C. G. does not mean to encroach at all upon the provisions allotted to the real subsistence of the army, but would rather spend every shilling of his own fortune.  
"Colo. Blaine, Com. Gen. Purchases."

The above requisition was made, we presume, under the following regulation of the Government:  
"TREASURY OFFICE, APRIL 9, 1779.  
"Ordered.—That Treasury Commissioners stationed in the place where Congress shall sit during from time to time such articles of provision in his department to the steward of the President of Congress as shall be suitable in quality for his table; that the said Commissary take receipts for the same as delivered; and that the steward be directed once a quarter to render to the Board an account of such provisions, certified by the Commissary, who is to specify as near as may be the cost thereof.  
"Extract from the minutes:  
"J. JO. NICHOLSON, Clerk."

THE CAROLINIANS AND THE NEGROES.  
It appears by the following communication, copied from the Columbia (South Carolina) Guardian of the 15th ultimo, that the South Carolinians are troubled in regard to food for slaves:  
"To His Excellency, Governor Bonham.  
"The stream of negro emigration from Mississippi has commenced flowing into this State, having been prohibited in Georgia and Alabama. The heavy rains of the summer have so damaged the corn crops that the question of subsistence for another year may be of great importance, and it becomes doubly so from the influx of consumers. Would it not be well for this State also to adopt some precautionary measures before it is too late? This suggestion is only thrown out to catch the attention of the proper authorities, the writer having every confidence that if any thing ought to be done in the premises it will not be overlooked.  
"Very respectfully,  
"CITIZEN."  
The Augusta Constitutionalist replies that "it is untrue that either Georgia or Alabama have refused refuge and don't to the unfortunate fugitives from Mississippi. Our people are incapable of so outrageous a breach of hospitality. Can a South Carolinian advocate or defend it?"

Alluding to Gen. McCLELLAN's report of his campaign, and the accompanying documents, said to fill two large boxes, and the reason assigned for not publishing them—viz, the inability of the Secretary of War or General-in-Chief to read them in order to ascertain what portion, if any, is improper for publication—the Cincinnati Commercial remarks that "after the publication of the evidence taken before the Committee of Investigation we doubt whether any thing can be written of McClellan's campaign the publication of which would be harmful."

HABEAS CORPUS AT DAYTON, (OHIO).  
A difficulty occurred in Dayton on the evening of the 2d instant between military officers and two citizens, in which Lieut. Waterman, of the 115th Ohio Regiment, was shot and seriously wounded. The Lieutenant was in pursuit of the men, who were annoying the camp in the public square, in order to identify them, when one of them fired a pistol and wounded him. The parties were subsequently arrested and kept in custody by the military authorities, when a writ of habeas corpus was issued by the civil authorities. The officer in charge refused to deliver up the men without orders from Gen. Cox. The Sheriff immediately called out the militia, and telegraphed to Governor Tod asking more force. The men were delivered over to the civil authorities by Gen. Cox, as soon as he received information of the affair. Their names are Thomas Spelman and W. S. Huber.

## NATIONAL BANKS.

Up to the 15th instant there have been eighty-four Banks established under the act of Congress of 1863, or about one per day since the first was organized in June last. The localities and capitals of these eighty-four Banks are as follows:

State.	No.	Capital.
Maine	1	\$100,000
New Hampshire	2	200,000
Vermont	none	
Massachusetts	1	250,000
Rhode Island	none	
Connecticut	3	600,000
New York City	2	970,000
New York State	7	
New Jersey	16	135,000
Pennsylvania	16	1,821,500
Delaware	none	
Maryland	none	
District of Columbia	1	500,000
Illinois	3	200,000
Indiana	15	1,419,000
Iowa	4	260,000
Michigan	2	125,000
Missouri	1	100,000
Ohio	22	3,725,500
Kentucky	none	
Wisconsin	2	335,000

Total to September 15 - 84 \$10,524,000.  
The locations of the eighty-four banks have been at seventy-six different places, viz:

Maine—Bath	1
New Hampshire—Portsmouth, Nashua	2
Massachusetts—Springfield, Worcester	2
Connecticut—New Haven, Stamford, Norwich	3
New York—New York (3), Adams, Ellenville, Danville, Flatkill Landing, Rondout, Syracuse, Watertown	9
New Jersey—Newark	1
Pennsylvania—Philadelphia, Carlisle, Erie, Girard, Huntingdon, Johnstown, Marietta, Newburg, Towanda, Kittanning, Wilkesbarre, Hollidaysburg	16
District of Columbia—Washington	1
Illinois—Chicago, Aurora, Cairo	3
Indiana—Indianapolis, Anderson, Bluffton, Centerville, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Richmond, 2), Kendallville, Lafayette, Richmond, Rockville, Terre Haute, Cambridge City, Lawrenceburg	15
Iowa—Davenport, Iowa City, Lyons, Keokuk	4
Michigan—Ann Arbor, Pontiac	2
Ohio—Cincinnati (3), Cleveland (2), Akron (2), Dayton (2), Canton, Findlay, Fremont, Hamilton, Lodi, McConville, Oberlin, Portsmouth, Salem, Sandusky, Troy, Warren, Youngstown	22
Missouri—Columbia	1
Wisconsin—Janesville, Milwaukee	2

Total number - 84

The average capital is about \$125,000 each.  
Other Banks under the National Act will soon be established at Louisville, Kentucky, and Detroit, Michigan, &c.  
At the twenty-four places marked with an asterisk (\*) there were no banking institutions existing previously in 1862. The new act of 1863 has therefore been the means of extending banking facilities to twenty-four places that were previously without them. The system meets more favor in the Western States than in the old States, because the former hitherto have had a less reliable currency than the latter.

## THE KENTUCKY ELECTION.

The official returns of the late election in Kentucky have just been published. We make the following abstract of them:

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR.	
Thomas E. Bramlette	67,596
Charles A. Wickliffe	17,344
Bramlette's majority	50,252
VOTE FOR CONGRESSMEN.	
First District—L. Anderson	4,323
Second District—L. S. Trimble	8,111
Third District—G. H. Yeaman	7,311
Fourth District—J. H. McHenry	3,087
Fifth District—H. Grider	8,654
Sixth District—T. C. Winfrey	1,293
Seventh District—A. Harding	10,435
Eighth District—W. J. Heady	2,508
Ninth District—J. T. Boyle	2,467
Tenth District—G. C. Smith	6,936
Eleventh District—J. W. Leathers	1,970
Twelfth District—J. W. Meazies	3,283
Thirteenth District—J. H. Clay	4,711
Fourteenth District—J. T. Boyle	2,467
Fifteenth District—E. A. Buckner	2,143
Sixteenth District—W. H. Randall	7,298
Seventeenth District—R. M. Bradley	197
Eighteenth District—W. H. Wadsworth	6,638
Nineteenth District—T. S. Brown	567

## THE CONSCRIPTION LAW.

The Act Declared Constitutional, but Decisions of Boards of Enrollment not Final.

On Wednesday, in the United States District Court at Philadelphia, Judge CADWALLADER announced the decision of the Court on the point raised in the recent habeas corpus cases of drafted men as to the finality of the decision of Boards of Enrollment on claims for exemption under the 14th section of the conscription act.

The particular case before the court was that of a drafted man whose claim for exemption, on the ground of being the sole support of a widowed mother, had been refused by the Board. The argument in this case and others that were presented at the same time, all being argued together, took a very wide range, and instead of being confined to the immediate question raised by them, embraced a review of the whole act.

The opinion of Judge Cadwallader is stated to be a very learned and elaborate one. Justice Grier, of the Supreme Court of the United States, although not present at the argument, sat with Judge Cadwallader, and assented to the decision of the principles of law embraced in the opinion. The following is given as a brief but substantial statement of its points:

It is decided that the right of Congress to pass the conscription act is legally and constitutionally derived from that clause of the Constitution giving Congress the power to raise armies, &c., which is distinct control over the militia.  
In regard to the administration of the powers conferred upon the Boards of Enrollment, the Judge decides in substance that "a statute which in relation to summary proceedings before a military commission enacts that its decision shall be final, does not necessarily make the decision conclusive as to the right which was in question."

Further, it is decided that "the provisions of the 14th section of the act of Congress of 3d March, 1863, ch. 75, requiring the presentation by drafted persons of all claims of exemption to the Board of Enrollment, and making the Board's decision final, do not, in the case of an exempt person whose claim of exemption has been duly presented to the Board and disallowed, preclude the subsequent consideration, under a writ of habeas corpus, of the question of the right of exemption."

HABEAS CORPUS AT DAYTON, (OHIO).  
A difficulty occurred in Dayton on the evening of the 2d instant between military officers and two citizens, in which Lieut. Waterman, of the 115th Ohio Regiment, was shot and seriously wounded. The Lieutenant was in pursuit of the men, who were annoying the camp in the public square, in order to identify them, when one of them fired a pistol and wounded him. The parties were subsequently arrested and kept in custody by the military authorities, when a writ of habeas corpus was issued by the civil authorities. The officer in charge refused to deliver up the men without orders from Gen. Cox. The Sheriff immediately called out the militia, and telegraphed to Governor Tod asking more force. The men were delivered over to the civil authorities by Gen. Cox, as soon as he received information of the affair. Their names are Thomas Spelman and W. S. Huber.

## THE REBEL RAMS IN ENGLAND.

The following is Earl Russell's reply to the memorial of the Emancipation Society relative to the steam rams in the Mersey:

FOREIGN OFFICE, AUGUST 13, 1863.  
GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter calling attention to a subject of very grave and pressing importance, namely, the fitting out or equipping two powerful iron-plated steam rams, which I am informed are intended to commit hostilities against the Government and people of the United States.

My attention has long been directed to these subjects. Both the Treasury and Home Departments have, at my request, made most anxious inquiries upon the subject of these steam rams.

You are aware that, by the foreign enlistment act, a ship is liable to be detained, and the owners are subject to penalty, when the ship is armed or equipped for purposes of war, and the owners intend to use her against some State or community in friendship with her Majesty. It is necessary to prove both the equipment and the intention. It is necessary, for conviction in a public court of justice, to have the evidence of a credible witness.

I was in hopes, when I began to read your memorial, that you would propose to furnish me with evidence that the steam rams in question were intended to carry on hostilities against the Government and people of the United States; but you have made no proposal of the sort, and only tell me that you are informed that so-and-so and it is believed that so-and-so is the fact.

You must be aware, however, that, according to British law, prosecutions cannot be set on foot upon the ground of violation of the foreign enlistment act without the affidavit of credible witnesses, as in other cases of misdemeanor and crimes. Such likewise is the law in your country, &c.  
Yours, &c.  
RUSSELL.

From the London Times of September 1.

The question of the Confederate steamers is becoming both serious and urgent; we wish we could add that it is also becoming more clear. Unfortunately, it is full of the gravest doubts, and although probably not one Englishman in ten would be under any uncertainty as to what he would wish to see done, it is by no means certain that the power of action exists. Common belief, as well as current report, assigns to the service of the Confederate Government two powerful iron-clad vessels now approaching completion in a well-known yard on the Mersey. These ships are war ships, and of the most formidable kind, cannot be disputed. They are plated with 44 inch armor, they have turrets for mounting heavy guns, and their stems are so constructed that they may be used as rams. On this point, therefore, no question can be raised. But our builders are constantly constructing ships of war for foreign Governments, and it is only on the presumption that these particular vessels are intended for a belligerent Power that the lawfulness of their destination can be questioned at all. Such a presumption, however, prevails.

We have only to ask ourselves what our feelings would have been if, while we were watching the Russian ports during the Crimean war, some neutral State had taken the Russian Government with cruisers came to close the sea against our commerce. Of course, we should never have allowed them such a range as the Alabama has enjoyed, but one day or other even we, with our enormous navy, may find our hands too full.

It is not our interest to allow such a precedent to be established for the first time, if it does not exist already, nor to connive at its extension, if it has any existence. Of the doubts which the question contains we ought to give ourselves the trouble to consider, as it happens, coincide on this occasion with the action of the Federal States.

Still, the Americans, whether of the North or of the South, must be perfectly aware that we can make no concession to menaces, and that no laws of England, whatever they may be, are not to be changed at the dictation of a foreign State. We believe that if our Government could feel itself justified in stopping any suspected vessel, the public would be glad to see the power exercised. We have no hand in the matter, and our services as that on which they are engaged. We do not wish to see any more of them sail on the like errand, though the Federals have themselves mainly to thank for the mischief which these vessels have been permitted to work. We are even disposed to think that if the foreign enlistment act is not comprehensive enough to prevent such dealings, it might be advantageously made so; but our authorities can only administer the law as it stands.

The alleged destination of the vessels in question is apparently denied, and, even if it were admitted, the absence of any "equipment" might render the bargain unlawful. The Federals, too, should be reasonable enough to remember that our impartiality in respect of this kind of trade has been abundantly proved. Whatever may have been the sympathies of the country, there has been no favor shown in the matter of commerce. The North-erners have had, without stint or molestation, cannon, rifles, powder, and every other description of warlike materials to their heart's content. Our neutrality, therefore, has not been violated by any thing like preference, and so little, even in the present case, are we influenced by sympathies, that if these steam rams are really destined for the Confederate Government, we sincerely hope the law may be strong enough to stop them.

## PEACE RESOLUTIONS IN VIRGINIA.

In the Senate of Old Virginia on the 9th instant—Mr. COLLIER, of Petersburg, offered a preamble and several joint resolutions, which proposed in substance that three commissioners should be appointed by each of the Confederate States, to repair to each of the States remaining in the old Union, and make known to the Governors of each of them that the Confederate States demand that they will, by the ballot-box, consent that the Confederate States be allowed these north to be separated from them in peace.